

IN THE CLAIMS

The claims pending in the application are reproduced below for the convenience of the Examiner.

1. (original) A wireless communication system, comprising:
a programmable interface operable to communicate data from a device to a transmitter in accordance with a communication protocol; and
a programming system selectively coupleable to the interface to enable a wireless communication system user to program the interface to communicate with any one of a plurality of devices using different communication protocols to communicate data.

2. (original) The system as recited in claim 1, wherein the interface is operable to be programmed to communicate with a first device using a first communication protocol and then to be re-programmed to communicate with a second device using a second communication protocol.

3. (original) The system as recited in claim 2, wherein the programming system comprises a computer system that enables a user to direct the selection of programming provided to the interface.

4. (original) The system as recited in claim 3, wherein the programming system comprises a database of devices and programming to enable the interface to communicate with a device in the database of devices.

5. (original) The system as recited in claim 1, wherein the interface comprises a first electrical connector configured for mating engagement with an external electrical connector selectively coupleable to the programming system.

6. (original) The system as recited in claim as recited in claim 1, wherein the transmitter comprises a transponder operable to receive a first signal at a first frequency and to transmit a second signal at a second frequency.

7. (original) The system as recited in claim 1, wherein the interface comprises a second electrical connector configured for mating engagement with the transmitter.

8. (original) The system as recited in claim 1, further comprising a cell controller and an antenna coupled to the cell controller, wherein the antenna is operable to transmit a first signal to the transmitter and to receive a second signal from the transmitter.

9. (original) The system as recited in claim 1, wherein the interface comprises memory to store the programming provided by the programming system.

10. (original) The system as recited in claim 9, wherein the interface further comprises a processor coupled to the device and to memory, wherein the processor executes the programming stored in memory to communicate device data to the transmitter.

11. The system as recited in claim 8, wherein the cell controller is coupled to an information system.

12. (original) The system as recited in claim 6, wherein the interface and the transmitter are housed within a single housing.

13. - 17. (canceled).

18. (original) A wireless communication system, comprising:
a cell controller;

a plurality of antennas electrically coupled to the cell controller, each antenna being operable to transmit a first signal and to receive a second signal;

a transmitter operable to receive the first signal and to transmit the second signal;
and

an interface electrically coupled between an asset and a transmitter to communicate asset data to the transmitter for transmission as a portion of the second signal, wherein the interface is programmable by a wireless communication system user to enable the interface to communicate with an asset and a transmitter using different communication protocols.

19. (original) The system as recited in claim 18, further comprising a programming unit operable to program the interface to communicate using a selected communication protocol.

20. (original) The system as recited in claim 19, wherein the communication protocol is selected by selecting a desired asset to communicate with the interface.

21. (original) The system as recited in claim 18, wherein the asset data is an operating parameter of the asset.

22. (original) The system as recited in claim 21, wherein the operating parameter is the operating status of the asset.

23. (original) The system as recited in claim 18, wherein the transmitter and interface are integrated into a single unit.

24. - 33. (canceled).
